

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1-46 (canceled)

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47. (currently amended) A thermal protection sheath, comprising:

[[a]] an inner tubular substrate that has an exterior surface with a plurality of recesses therein, said substrate being longitudinally and radially elastically deformable between [[a]] an original relaxed configuration and an expanded configuration in which a length [[and]] or a radius of said substrate [[are]] is larger than in said original relaxed configuration; and

a reflective foil fixed to said substrate and contacting said exterior surface only intermittently so as to form air pockets, said reflective foil being arranged on said substrate to have a plurality of indentations that correspond to said plurality of recesses when said substrate is in said original relaxed configuration and that disappear when said

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substrate is elastically deformed ~~to permit said substrate to~~  
~~assume from said original relaxed configuration to said expanded~~  
configuration.

48. (previously presented) The sheath of claim 47,  
wherein said substrate comprises a corrugated tube and said  
recesses are annular depressions in said exterior surface, and  
wherein said air pockets are in said annular depressions between  
said foil and said corrugated tube.

49. (previously presented) The sheath of claim 47,  
wherein said substrate comprises a woven material and said  
recesses are between threads of said woven material.